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# SOUTHERN NEWS

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

VOL 61 - ISSUE 3

## New school of business breaks ground Important local figures join the university for official construction start



PHOTO | MADELINE S. SCHARF

President and participants shovel dirt at construction.



PHOTO | BRIA KIRKLIN

President Bertolino speaks to guests at the ceremony.

By **Ellis McGinley**  
Managing Editor  
**Madeline S. Scharf**  
News Editor

The university hosted an official groundbreaking ceremony for the new school of business Friday, Sept. 17, just outside Conn. Hall and within view of the construction site.

The event was attended by many, from faculty and alumni to business managers and politicians. They came to celebrate the School of Business' continued progress and what it means for both the university and the greater business community.

University president Joe Bertolino kicked off the groundbreaking by giving a speech regarding the important role business education will bring for both New Haven and the state at large. "We will be creating innovative new partnerships with local businesses," said Bertolino. "It is also a boon for Connecticut, as 85% of all Southern graduates stay and work in Connecticut."

The building is the newest addition to recent developments within the School of Business.

"These are indeed exciting times for our business school, with new leadership, outstanding faculty and pending AACSB accreditation - a premier mark of quality that is held by only five percent of schools worldwide," Bertolino said.

The AACSB, or Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, is an international nonprofit. They have accredited approximately 900 organizations thus far.

The School of Business also recently hired a new dean, Dr. Jennifer Robin, who began her career at the university in July.

Bertolino also noted the individuals who aided in the funding and development of the building, including alum and sponsor Lindy Gold.

"Lindy Gold, president of the Amor Prope Fund, made significant gifts," said Bertolino. "These donations will benefit

students for generations to come."

According to some sources, so far the construction process has been a long one.

David Martin, Chief Architect for the Division of Construction Services, said, "10s of thousands of hours will be eventually dedicated between the design and construction teams, it's been two years into planning, fraught with risk in terms of maintaining budget."

There is not yet an exact date for when the school will finish construction.

"This building is scheduled to be completed in early 2023. I understand there are construction folks here; if you'd like to move that along faster, you're not going to have any objection, and my CFO is saying under budget," Bertolino said in his opening speech, to some laughter from the audience.

"We have a 34-million-dollar construction budget on this job," said Martin, "I am confident we will stay in budget."

This comment was also met with laughter from some audience members.

Todd Lukas, the project manager for the State of Connecticut, commented on the current state of the building. "We are not tall yet, but we are getting there."

This stage of construction may not always be the easiest.

"Getting out of the ground is about the hardest thing on any campus and so the things that we have encountered we have been able to take care of. We've actually gotten rid of some leftover asbestos that the campus didn't remove and so only losing about ten days from the start is a phenomenal achievement," said Lukas.

The new building will also be the first state-constructed facility with a net-zero carbon footprint.

Lukas said "[students] should embrace the forward momentum of green buildings. You are the only school in the state that I know of that is going to have one of these buildings."

## Latin American prisons

By **Danielle Campbell**  
Copy Editor

On the first day of Hispanic Heritage Month, Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. held their first event for Hispanic Heritage Week on campus Wednesday, Sept. 15. This was also their first educational event. The event was created and presented by sociology major with a focus on criminal justice and Vice President of the sorority Analys Torres, a senior. Torres got the idea from a research paper she did last year on the topic.

"I pretty much did a research project, it was more of a term paper, last year around this time about incarcerated pregnancies within Brazil and in the United States. I wanted to include that as well because what I learned from my term paper I feel as though everyone should learn about it," said Torres.

Having Puerto Rican roots herself, Torres wanted to bring more information on Latin America to the campus. The event was both in person and online to reach more people.

"I feel as though since there's not a lot of Hispanic representation on campus. I feel as though there should be more, and I tried to do that. And since it's my first educational event of the semester, I decided to start with this since a lot of Latin women are underrepresented,

especially within their own country. I decided to bring awareness to this issue since a lot of students here at Southern don't know much about either Latin heritage, or what the problems going on within Latin America," said Torres.

According to the presentation, one of Latin American prisons' biggest issues is their focus on men and how they should be cared for medically. Since more men used to be in prison, the medical personnel are more equipped to help male biology. This has not changed with the increase of women in prison.

"The female prison population last year, they have grown from at least 40,000 to 74,000 inmates. So due to this, prisons do not have the appropriate supplies needed for the female population," said Torres. "They don't have the appropriate skills or knowledge to handle the female incarcerated prisoners, let alone have the proper staff to help with whatever needs that they need."

Torres covered three countries in the presentation: Brazil, Costa Rica and Cuba. Each with their own set of issues. The in-person students sat engaged with the PowerPoint as Torres described each country's mistreatment of imprisoned women.

"I never knew that this was a huge problem that needed to be addressed. I

had an idea that prisons in South America was in a deteriorating state. It had opened my eyes to how women are being mistreated in prison. I am Spanish so engaging in this presentation made me want to go out and make a change," said communications major and music minor Brian Green, a sophomore.

Carmen Rodriguez is the president of Gamma Zeta regional alumni chapter, an alumni chapter of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc for graduate students and working professionals. She came out to this event to support her undergraduate sisters.

"So, I came out here to support my undergrads, honestly. The goal I have for my chapter this year is basically for us to support our undergrads more within the area. So, I'm trying to make it out to all the events that they're having in person," said Rodriguez.

Torres concluded the presentation with information on how to help these women if anyone felt called to do so and a statement on the severity of the topic.

"This is really a human rights issue that's going unnoticed, especially throughout the whole world. So, the whole world can know about this issue if a lot of people want to speak about it. Because the same issue that is happening within Latin America will also be happening within other countries."

## New admissions dir.

By **Abby Epstein**  
Contributor

20 years of engaging with students, 12 days of engaging with Southern students. Nilvio Perez has been named the new admissions director.

"I know a lot of people that work here at Southern and a lot of alums who speak highly of the institution, of their experiences and I felt that I would like to be a part of that. That was one of the main reasons I applied," said Perez.

Perez wants to learn from the students about ways to make the application process easier for them. He also wants to bring students in to see the renovations, all the academics available and make it affordable as possible for students.

"One of the things I am going to try to do is attract students from outside the region to come visit the campus," said Perez. "Kind of have that entire experience students are looking for available for them."

According to the press release sent out, Perez came from Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) where he was Associate Director of Recruitment and Admissions. He also worked at Albertus Magnus for 11 years, five of which were as director, so Perez is familiar with the New Haven area.

"I believe it's the most vibrant college town this state has to offer, so being around college students having that energy in a city was something I wanted," said Perez.

It did help during the hiring phase that Perez already worked in one of the Connecticut Schools and was familiar with New Haven. There were quite a few more boxes that had to be checked off to even be looked at for the position.

"We had a list of criteria that we asked for which included a master's degree and certain number of years of experience and that narrowed the pool further," said Colleen Bielitz, associate vice president.

The hiring pool was further narrowed down to eight and each had a virtual interview. The top four were brought to campus.

"It was a competitive pool with the finalists but what stood out with Nilvio is he had this broad range of experience," said Bielitz. "He's also very dynamic and knew about every question that was thrown his way."

What he achieved at CCSU and Albertus Magnus were one of the differences which made Perez stand out from other candidates.

"He put in place different recruiting techniques that increased the number of applicants and

enrollment at Central, so when he presented some of the ideas, he had done to capture a larger audience, it was like it would be great if he could bring those here and implement those other practices here as well," said Bielitz.

Working at CCSU has helped with making the transition to Southern easier. Central uses the same systems Southern does so the training Perez has had to go through has not been at all difficult.

"Right now, I think I'm just learning, kinda of been understanding what the cultural is here," said Perez, "so I do plan on going to student government association meetings, sporting events and if it's open for theatre and music."

Perez is big on getting feedback from students and understanding what students want. From the press release, Perez likes to get involved within the school; he has been the advisor for student clubs and organizations, he has participated in campus programs and supports the arts, athletics and more.

"Some of those things that students are doing and talking to students to get a real sense of why they choose Southern, why they stayed at Southern, and knowing why Southern is special to them," said Perez, "will help me in my role as I am trying to get students to consider Southern."



# SGA discusses elections and establishes future plans

By: Ellis McGinley  
Managing Editor

The university's Student Government Association convened for their weekly meeting in Engleman Friday, Sept. 17, just after 1 p.m.

Campaigning for new student government representatives will begin Sept. 27. Candidates can use both in-person and virtual platforms, including social media and flyers.

Voting, according to Gossman and the association, will last from Oct. 4 to Oct. 8, and representatives will be inducted at the first meeting after an approximately one-week grace period to allow for resolution of any conflict during the election process.

The class of 2025 currently has openings in

all officer positions.

SGA president Sarah Gossman gave both the vice president and secretary's reports in those officers' absences.

According to Vice President of the Board of Student Experience Brandon Iovene, a senior, "this week was a really exciting week. I learned how to cast my laptop onto the TV and we were able to look pretty in-depth into the 10-year master plan."

The masterplan is an outline, developed in 2014 and presented in 2015, of the next 10 years of projects the university aims to complete on-campus.

"It was a very in-depth, very comprehensive look into projected enrollment numbers, projected space needs for the next 10 years," Iovene said. "It helped the company who

produces the masterplan figure out what things needed to be added to campus, like buildings, what buildings needed to be renovated -- just kind of, like, making Southern's campus look revitalized, cohesive and part of why we were looking at that masterplan, what's so important about it, is because space utilization is a big deal."

SGA's primary focus regarding the masterplan regards what space student organizations need which would be provided or affected.

"What we found in the masterplan is that the stuff that was on the docket to be done would be very beneficial to the student body. Problem being a lot of the stuff that was planned to be done by 2025 most likely won't be done given budget changes and enrollment

numbers. Their projected enrollment numbers by 2025 were far more than what they've become now, given everything that's going on with COVID. Not to mention in 2014, when the study was being done, the amount of students at Southern was more than the amount of students in 2021," said Iovene.

Iovene said, the Student Advisory Committee to the university's Board of Regents convened at their first BOR meeting of the semester.

Iovene said, they are still sorting out an executive board but once they do, the Chair and Vice Chair will "...have the ability to have their vote included" in BOR votes "if there's anything happening on a larger scale that's broadly impacting Southern or broadly impacting us on a broader scale."

Iovene also discussed

plans with Daphney Alston, SGA advisor and assistant director of student involvement and leadership, regarding planned renovations in the resource room.

"The whole point is to make it an inviting space, but also multifunctional. At the present moment, a lot of clubs and organizations need that space," Iovene said.

Representative Krista Jones, speaking for the Board of Academic Experience, discussed plans to work with the campus bookstore as well as monitor and survey changes in class modality, or whether classes meet in-person, online or in hybrid format.

"So basically, what we discussed in the [board] meeting was having a meeting with Larry Gal, who is in charge of the bookstore from what I

understand, we're meeting him to discuss bookstore pricing and how that all works," she said.

The board is currently preparing questions for Gal regarding bookstore logistics.

"We also talked about the modality situation that I discussed last week," Jones said. "I'm sort of starting to create, like, a modality tracker in which we're going to take all the courses that are supposed to be happening in the spring, write down what their modality is at the moment, and then check back in October and see what's changed, and then again at the start of the spring semester," she said. "If there are a lot of changes, we can have documented evidence and we can bring it to the next step if it's clear it's becoming more of an issue."

# University police dept. meets students on the court

By Devin J. Hollister  
Contributor

On Sept. 15, 2021, the university Police department held the "Clash on the Court" event for staff and students.

This event was for students interested in spending time and playing basketball with the police dept.

The event was held on the campus basketball courts at 5:30 p.m. It was originally scheduled for the university's "Week of Welcome," but was rescheduled due to weather complications.

Among the people there were student athletes and officers from the campus police station.

Police Chief Joseph Dooley was also there to support the event and participate alongside students.

"It's great we're here and participating," said Chief Dooley. "It's great for our department and a lot of people were energized on doing it, and it's fun!"

The idea of "Clash on the Court" was first presented by Sgt. Kim Claire of the university Police.

"It was made to create a time together to do community building," Sgt. Claire said. "It was just for police to interact with staff and students to build

better relationships on campus; that was the goal. It's important work we all have to do."

The basketball game mainly consisted of a knockout tournament, with participants having the objective of free-throwing into the basket while trying to not get "knocked out," by the other player making it into the basket before they do.

The game continues until the last two players stand and try to make it in the basket.

Prizes, donated from the university, were also given for the winners of the tournament, such as clothing from the bookstore, gift cards from retail stores and free food from Sodexo, campus' primary food service.

The police dept. has their own official Instagram page and posted their first "Clash on the Court" announcement on Sept. 1, 2021, with an update regarding their original postponement.

It also gave information on how to sign up to participate in the event, including the email of Sgt. Claire, organizer.

Other posts on their official Instagram page show their involvement with the campus community, whether it be with the sports teams, construction workers

or general students. The "Clash of the Courts" event appears to be the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the department's campus engagement.

Students who had shown up to the event and did not play in the tournament claimed they still had a great time.

Chikaodili Okeke, a graduate student also attended, showing that even alumni were part of the event.

"It's fun for making connections and meeting new people," Okeke said. "It's just nice to see people happy and doing stuff on campus."

With the police dept.'s work in trying to involve themselves with students and faculty, it shows they want to provide strength in the relationships with people on campus.

Students who attend the events the police host have provided benefits to their cause of being involved with one another, such as the bond and trust they have with campus police.

This basketball event has been one of many to bring the students and university police dept. together, the department's primary goal.

"If you look at who's out there and you listen to the people and the laughter and the fun," said Chief Dooley, "it's a win-win."



PHOTO | DEVIN J. HOLLISTERE

Students and faculty pose for a photo-op after playing the "Clash on the Court."



PHOTO | DEVIN J. HOLLISTERE

Students and officers huddle up, discussing the layout of the game and readying.

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## Bullying is not just in high school: ‘not alone’

**By Sarah Shelton**  
Features Editor

So far, this semester has been rough. I want to remind everyone that kindness and understanding for each other can go a long way.

Lately, I've felt alone on campus. I have some friends, but I constantly see friend groups always together around campus and I feel I have no place here.

I'm a bit of a workaholic—so I am typically busy. Still, there are events on campus I am dying to go to, and then I am like, “well, I don't want to go alone.” So

I typically end up snacking on chips in my dorm while watching television.

Coming into freshman year, I was actually one of those students with a big group of friends. We all lived in Neff and were friends in high school.

After a lot of thinking, I let most of them go for my mental health—which I feel needs to be more normalized: respecting people, but not hanging out.

But sometimes there are situations where you are no longer respected.

One day I was walking around with my best friend of four years, who happens to be my ex-boyfriend, at a poster sale. I noticed his

friends, two of which he only knew for a few days, laughing and pointing at me from the checkout line. He acknowledged it after I pointed it out, but ignored it due to lack of care.

Since that day, I cannot stop thinking about how there is probably “high school bullying” that no one talks about. In that moment, I felt like I was receiving the bullying I missed out on in high school.

Later, he told me they were laughing because he was with me.

After this, we didn't talk much; however, one night, I texted him how I felt about everything. I have always been transparent with him,

which he has continuously said is okay. I had to text him about work anyway.

I was ignored, then he and his friends began pushing the “she's crazy” stereotype. So, I stopped.

I stopped trying to express my feelings to people who do not care.

I wish, as my best friend, he talked to me, instead of listening to opinions of people who do not know me, but that is life. It sucks when a friendship ends and to feel ganged up on, but friendships do not always work out and it is okay.

But all this started because of immature bullying tactics.

According to BMC

Psychology, “while a majority of bullying peaks in middle school and subsides by high school, research indicates that bullying may never completely go away.”

I talked to a few students who feel bullied. Some feel left out. Others get made fun of for what they are into, such as Pokémon and K-Pop. I even talked to some students who have similar problems with their friends not acting like friends.

Communication is important, but empathy is key. If they cannot put themselves in someone else's shoes, learn from my mistakes. Block and move on, which I have now done.

Bullies certainly do not care about your mental health.

The university does a lot for students' mental health, such as counseling, but speaking about this topic is important. People are still bullied at our age.

Of course, I do not want to make my problems public, but the amount of people on campus who feel alone, left out or bullied is surprising. I want people to know they are not alone.

I am not going to share more about my situation to respect the people involved and I'm not going to engage with them anymore. This editorial is my closure.

As Selena Gomez said: “kill 'em with kindness.”

## Smiling faces to be seen in outdoor classrooms

**By Madeline S. Scharf**  
News Editor

I do not go outside much. Between my heavy class schedule, the newspaper and trying to maintain a social life with mostly introverted friends, my time in the sun is minimal.

This, however, changed when my professor proposed an outdoor class. We would be discussing the same content, taking the same notes—but this time sitting out in the sun instead of a classroom.

I was skeptical at first. I had never had a class held

outdoors before. I could only figure I would spend the discussions distracted by something or other. Maybe the wind would be too harsh. I was unsure about the whole ordeal, but doubted it would hurt to try it out.

There are a few issues with an outdoor class. No conventional table and chair setups mean we drag folding chairs outside and write on our laps.

And there was a bug in my notebook.

But those minor details are completely swept away by the benefits of outdoor classes.

First off, the pandemic

has been harsh on many on aspects of life, but one thing I never really thought about was that I had been unable to see half of my peers' and instructors' faces.

When we had outdoor classes, though, we were all able to remove our masks if we remained a safe distance from one another.

Getting to see the faces of the people you are talking to was something pre-COVID me took advantage of. A lot of people look completely different without half their face covered.

It was nice to be

able to have intelligent discussions with people while able to see their whole reactions. It can tell you a lot.

That was not the only reason I found outdoor class so great. It was being able to relax in the sun while doing work.

So I looked it up. According to the Journal of Affective Disorders, “seasonal increases in sun time [was] associated with decreased mental health distress.” I would be inclined to agree, simply from how much more relaxed I was while having class outdoors.

Normally, I am a

bit uncomfortable in classrooms, despite my more outspoken, responsive output. In reality? I am desperately trying not to fidget and worried I may say the wrong thing. But with the sun shining down, I felt far more relaxed. I was able to freely speak my mind without much worry, and I hardly felt the need to move around much. Without the stuffiness of an indoor setting, I really felt my overall demeanor shift.

Fresh air is also nice. While indoors, the air may feel stuffier.

Not to mention the

masks. They are not too bad, but sometimes it gets just a tad annoying to wear. Being outside means fresher air, which I find far more comfortable than being indoors.

Despite my high praise, I completely understand those who do not find an outdoor learning environment effective.

Once, a bird gave such a loud caw above me that it stole my entire train of thought mid-sentence.

Still, the entire class understood.

But I will take being distracted momentarily by a monarch butterfly over a classroom any day.

## Lone major: our metals program rusts away



**By Ellis McGinley**  
Managing Editor

“You're a what major?” My neighbor asked, eyebrows shooting up in surprise.

“Metals,” I said. “Like - jewelry? Have you seen the shop in Earl?”

“No,” they said, incredulous like everyone

else I ever disclosed my major to. “I haven't.”

Of course not. I did not know it was there until half-way through freshman year, and no wonder: after I changed my degree program, I learned I had just become the sole metals major left on campus.

I wrote before about the conditions in Earl Hall, from the cockroaches to the humidity rusting away the very equipment which makes my degree possible, and the building has received no renovation beyond an elevator since 1959.

Still, are we really so scared of some possibly radioactive insects no one else has dared venture into the metals shop? This school has approximately

8,000 undergraduate students: how could it be, out of all of them, only one currently chose to major in jewelry? I figured there would at least be two of us, given the probability of restrictive bug phobias.

And yes, technically the full degree is a Bachelor of Science in studio art with a concentration, but you try making that snappy.

Part of the problem is in credits: we draw many transfers and commuters. For transfers, it is likely declaring the concentration would add extra semesters. For commuters, the outside-class studio hours required to study metals are not as accessible as they could be.

But there are other studio art majors on campus,

and other students in art concentrations. While it may never be a large major, the math as to why it is all but an endangered major fails to add up for me.

I think part of it lies in utilization.

We have the only four-year metalworking degree program of this kind in the state. I have written on this before: UMass Dartmouth, the nearest comparable program, is ranked second-best in all fine arts programs in the state of Mass. They have eight dedicated rooms and multiple student sculptures around campus, as well as a dedicated, renovated fine arts center.

In Conn., Southern also ranks second, according to CollegeFactual, although

only in public fine arts programs. Only UConn beats us—which has no metalworking or jewelry minor, never mind major or concentration. Yet Earl remains in its current state with no plans for upcoming upgrade. Our single metals room is cramped and humid, some limited space dedicated to ancient equipment from Earl's laboratory days.

UMass Dartmouth is also a fellow public institution otherwise known for its programs in healthcare, education and other STEM fields. They are part of a broader state university system, often the choice of commuter and transfer students within local communities. They started as a specialty trade

school, and then gradually expanded during post-industrialization eras.

Sound familiar?

The key difference: Southern has one metals major. Equivalent programs at UMass Dartmouth, which has a different categorization system, boast anywhere from three to 295.

If our institution advertised and supported its art programs with the same pride as our peers, maybe more students could take advantage of this unique opportunity: a four-year creative trade program in metalworking and jewelry design into an unsaturated niche. It is the only one like it; it is here; it is unheard of.

We can do better.

## SOUTHERN NEWS

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Issues printed by: Valley Publishing, Derby, CT  
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## University sports has multiple wins



Southern players celebrating a goal.



Defender Johnny Foster trying to take the ball.

### Photos and Story By Roma Rositani Photo Editor

This past weekend, athletic teams, including soccer and volleyball, had multiple winning games.

The men's soccer team won against St. Michaels College, with a score of 3-0. This was the soccer team's first win of the season. The goalkeeper shut out the opposing offense.

Women's volleyball won

against Felician University in four sets.

Volleyball won four games this week, including three in two days, making it a good week for the women's volleyball team.

Football was also victorious at their first home game this past weekend. The Owls won 34-31 on a last second field goal kick by Szymon Gawlick against St. Anselm College.

This was a good week for the university sports teams.

PHOTOS | ROMA ROSITANI



Outside hitter Layla Cortez hitting the ball past Fellicion's blocker.



Libero Krishnalei So'oto serving the ball.



Forward Jacob Rose protecting the ball from St. Michael's player.



Midfielder Juan Alava running over to his teammates after scoring.



Midfielder Joshi Muñoz running with the ball.



Middle blocker Erika Benson hitting the ball over the net to opposing players.



Midfielder Juan Alava trying to get the ball from opposing player.



# Owls win a wild one at last second

## A penalty and a last-second field goal bails Owls football out against St. Anselm

By Morgan Douglas  
Sports Editor

In his first year as a football player, Owls' kicker Szymon Gawlick created a memory to last a lifetime during Friday night's home opener against the St. Anselm College Hawks.

The Owls narrowly defeated the Hawks 34-31 off the boot of Gawlick and his last-second field goal, improving to 2-1.

"I've seen it before on NFL and college games," Gawlick said. "And I was like, no way this is actually going to be happening to me on this Friday night at our own home field. That's just something totally different."

The home crowd was rocking the entire game after nearly two years without Owls football such as to be expected; but with the dramatic nature of the victory, the attendees reached a crescendo as the players swarmed the field to embrace their hero kicker.

The game itself was more than one play at the end, however. It took 59 minutes and 59 seconds of play to get to that point.

A lot happened. It ought to be recapped.

The Hawks scored a touchdown less than a minute into the game. A great opening kick return gave them a short field, and Hawks quarterback

Drew Willoughby was able to find wide receiver Cade Horton for a 31-yard touchdown strike.

The Owls got their offense going on the second drive. Quarterback Jackson Ostrowsky took a shot downfield to wide receiver Tye Hodge, who had his man beat to get himself open. The play resulted in a 57-yard touchdown to tie the score early.

The Owls' defense forced a three and out, and special teams gave the offense good field position to start their third drive. The offense capitalized and Ostrowsky threw his second touchdown pass to receiver Tylon Papallo, who broke a tackle on his way to the end zone.

Late in the first quarter, St. Anselm had a goal to go sequence in which the Owls' defense stepped up and held them to a field goal. 14-10 after one quarter of play.

A sack by Hawks linebacker Damien Williams set up a daunting 3rd and 24 for the Owls. Receiver Izaiah Sanders stepped up with a terrific catch and run to gain an improbable first down.

After directing traffic and putting a man in motion, Ostrowsky threw a dart to Sanders for his third touchdown pass of the first half.

"Jackson told me if we got man-on-man coverage, and they pressed

me, we could not let them get away with that," Sanders said, "so he was throwing it to me 100 percent."

The score was 21-17 at the half. The Hawks scored their second touchdown by peppering wide receiver Anthony Brown with target after target until he found the endzone.

The biggest revelation in the third quarter was the change of quarterback. Ostrowsky was replaced by Joe Bernard, a junior, due to an undisclosed injury.

"I knew that there was a little injury," Bernard said. "But I'm always ready. I prepare as a starter every week. I know that my time's going to come at some point, so I have to take advantage. Jackson set things up great for us in the first half."

Bernard led a drive resulting in a field goal, and the score was 24-17 at the end of three.

Running back T.J. Gardner broke off a 56-yard gain early in the fourth before being tackled at the 11-yard line. Out of a four-wide shotgun formation Bernard found Sanders who shoved his way through would-be tacklers on his way to paydirt. It was Bernard's first touchdown pass in college.

"We do this every day and I was ready to go," Bernard said, "I just threw



PHOTO | BRIA KIRKLIN

Owls defensive back Ja'Kai Young pressing Hawks wide receiver Anthony Brown at the line of scrimmage during Friday's last-second 34-31 victory over St. Anselm.

it to where 'Zay (Sanders) was, 'Zay got open, he did the work, and got in."

Gawlick converted the extra point. 31-17 Owls with over 12 minutes remaining.

With just over five minutes left, the Hawks ran an option keeper out of the shotgun on which Willoughby scored to cut the lead to 31-24.

The Owls went three and out on their corresponding drive and committed a 15-yard penalty on their punt, leaving the door open for the Hawks to tie it with over two and a half minutes on the clock and all three timeouts.

Brown continued to carry the Hawks, breaking

tackle after tackle on his way to a 51-yard game-tying touchdown with 1:49 remaining.

With 38 seconds left, the Owls had the ball in Hawks territory on a fourth and 10. Do or die.

Bernard dumped it to running back Anthony Ligi to pick up the biggest first down of the game.

With one second left, head coach Tom Godek called timeout and brought on special teams for a last second field goal attempt.

The attempt initially appeared to have been botched and the game was headed to overtime, but a late flag called a 15-yard penalty against the Hawks, giving Gawlick another

chance from close.

"It's a big penalty," Coach Godek said. "We were fortunate, the ball moved a little closer, we felt a little bit better at that range. The guys blocked good, held good, kicked good, and here we are with the victory."

Despite the chaos at the end, the Owls were able to come out with the 34-31 victory and will take the road to face University of New Haven next week feeling confident.

"From top to bottom, this group's great," Bernard said. "From the first strings to the last strings, we've got something special here. I think we can go pretty far. I'm really excited."

# Volleyball continues to soar early

By Morgan Douglas  
Sports Editor

Volleyball's impressive run continued this past week, picking up four more victories and including three wins in two days. Their record is now sitting at 10-2.

The Felician University Golden Falcons were the Owls' latest prey this past Saturday, losing in four sets at Pelz Gymnasium. The Owls remain undefeated at home, having won the first eight games in their gym.

"I tell the girls all the time, this is our house," head coach Lisa Barbaro said. "We love being in here. I mean, yeah, it's hot and maybe that plays to our advantage. We practice in here every day, so, we're really used to that, and we really try to stress that home court advantage and so far, we're doing a great job."

Even during warmups, the home team looked like the better one, but to Felician's credit, they came out strong in the early going.

The Golden Falcons led for most of the first set, but the Owls kept coming, chipping away at the lead until Felician was forced to call timeout up 23-22. Outside hitter Gabriela Vazquez tied the score at 24, and the Owls rallied late to win the first set 28-26.

"Sometimes in those moments, it's about who wants it more," Vazquez said, "and I feel like we're

getting to a place where we're able to dig ourselves out of those holes in those situations."

The second set was a back-and-forth affair with neither side gaining control or momentum. A set which saw 14 tie scores. Up 20-19 the Golden Falcons were sweating. The Owls were focused.

Felician took the set 30-28, finally, but between the heat in the gym and the effort it took for them to win, the Golden Falcons had been tarnished for the rest of the afternoon.

The third set was all Owls. Middle hitter Payton Reis played very well off the bench, and setter Taylor Jones had the offense clicking, repeatedly putting her teammates in great positions to score.

The Owls went on a 5-1 run out of a timeout to take the third set 25-15. The set point coming from Jones assisting outside hitter Gabriela Gaibur for the kill. Winning by 10 was quite the feat after dropping the previous set.

"I think that during the second set we were a bit stunned, and we were noticing that we were playing bad," Jones said, "but once we lost that second set, we reminded ourselves that we hold ourselves to a very high expectation, and that it was unacceptable."

The Owls led the entire fourth set, as the bench chanted the names of Vazquez, Gaibur and middle hitter Abigail

Epstein. Vazquez was just toying with the Golden Hawks it seemed, by this point. Going to her left hand, her off-hand, to record multiple kills, including one to give the Owls a 22-12 lead.

"I am not left-handed," Vazquez said with a grin. "I got some nice swings; I was so excited. I don't even know, it just happened."

Vazquez' 18 kills were a game-high and set a new career-high for the graduate student.

Gaibur scored the match point to end the fourth set 25-19, and with it the game. Gaibur had a double-double in the contest, her third this week, with 14 kills and 15 digs.

Volleyball will next take the court on Thursday, Sept. 23 for a 7 p.m. matchup at Pace University.

To get to a 10-2 record, many things need to be going right. One of those things has been this volleyball team's passing. Jones averages 10 assists per set, distributing to the likes of Vazquez, Gaibur and Epstein with regularity.

Jones tallied 38 assists across the four sets Saturday afternoon and credited it to her team's consistency.

"Usually with volleyball, either your passing is off and your hitting's on, or your hitting is off, and your passing is on," Jones said, "but it's never one or the other on this team, they're very consistent."



PHOTO | BRIA KIRKLIN

Teammates look on as Gabriela Vazquez goes up for an attack against Felician University during Saturday's win at Pelz Gym. See the photos section for more.



PHOTO | BRIA KIRKLIN

Gabriela Vazquez sends the ball over the net as her teammates look on during Saturday's win against Felician University in Pelz Gym.



# Men's soccer gets first win of the season

## The Owls score three goals in a shutout victory over St. Michael's

By Christian Dunn  
Contributor

The men's soccer team returned home for their first conference match of the season, taking on the 3-1 Saint Michael Purple Knights.

Despite scoring only one goal through the team's first four games, the Owls' offense was hot right from the start. Only seven minutes into the game, Owl midfielder Juan Alava took a pass from forward Jalen Jean and turned it into a 1-0 lead with a beautiful chip shot right over the Purple Knights goalie Ian Boudreau and into the back of the net. Only one minute later, the home team's goalkeeper, Bailey Bassett, made his first save of the game with a nice dive to his left.

After some passes to work the ball down the field, the Owls once again found themselves in scoring position in the ninth minute of the game.

Defender Arnold Signell had a wonderful crossing pass to the left corner, where forward Jean, a freshman, was waiting.

Only two minutes after assisting on the first goal of the game, Jean turned the pass into another goal for the Owls, the first of his college career, with a nice shot into the right side of the net when St. Michael's goalie stepped out to meet him in the box.

"I saw that there was a bit of space and so I ran into it," Jean said, "and Arnold just gave me a beautiful ball through, and I hit it and I was just like watching it as it went in and I was just like, no way. The rush was just amazing, and I hope to score many more."

After a highly effective first ten minutes, scoring with their first two shots on net, offenses on both sides were held scoreless the rest of the first half.

The Owls found themselves with a 2-0 lead to begin the second half, but kept their foot on the gas, and head coach Tom Lang did not want to give Saint Michael's any sort of chance to get back in the game.

"We just wanted to make sure we kept doing the things that we did to get on top of them," Coach Lang said, "and we knew that they would try to come back but I think that we handled it quite well."

And handle it they did, impressive saves by Bassett in the 62 and 68 minute kept the shutout going, but more importantly prevented the Purple Knights from gaining any sort of momentum.

After 65 scoreless minutes, the Owls did find the back of the net again: this time by Leroy Best, who had hit the crossbar earlier. This goal came after some fancy footwork by Best, who then sent

the ball right into the top left corner in a spot St. Michael's keeper could not reach even with a dive.

"It was my first game in a month so, finally glad to be back out here," Best said, "and then obviously it's always nice to score, just glad about the performance and effort we all put in and just happy to be back."

As the final whistle blew, the Owls defense had not allowed a goal for the second time this season and did so against a team yet to be shut out this season.

"That's pretty special," Bassett said. "Especially because it came in our first win. That's big time, especially coming off that big loss versus Wilmington, that does add a little extra spice, that's very nice."

The Owls' next match will be on Wednesday, Sept. 22, versus the College of Saint Rose.

It was a successful day for the Owl offense, particularly for the freshman players, who scored or assisted on each goal.

"We are a young team and we still have a little ways to go, so it is important for them to get the opportunities in these games," Lang said, "and the most important thing is that they learn from their mistakes and if they can do that, it should be the sign of a good future."



PHOTO Roma Rositani

Owls defender Johnny Foster working against St. Michael's forward McCaskill during Saturday's 3-0 shutout win by the Owls at Jess Dow Field.



PHOTO Roma Rositani

St. Michael's midfielder Miguel Diaz working against Defender Alex da Cunha. See the photos section for more from this game.

## Men's soccer continued

By Sebastian Arbelaez  
Contributor

After almost two years of not playing at Jess Dow Field, the men's soccer team returned to action in their home opener against University of Bridgeport.

Fans turned out for the game, as 350 people were in attendance.

Even though the crowd may have wanted to see a game full of goals, this one ended in a 0-0 draw.

The Owls suffered a loss in their first game of the season against Mercy College.

Despite hopes of winning their first game of the season at home, they came up short.

Men's soccer managed to take 10 total shots with six of them being on target, and many chances in the opponent's final third.

The University of Bridgeport men's soccer team took the trip up to New Haven and managed to escape with a point, as it was an equally contested game.

Both sides split possession time at 50% apiece.

Bridgeport had the same number of shots on target, six, and with fewer attempts, nine total shots.

For the Owls, Zachary Tuccitto led the team in shots as he managed to get off two on goal.

The star of the game for men's soccer was goalkeeper Bailey Bassett.

Bassett recorded five saves in goal, with a crucial one-on-one save in the first half.

"I'm satisfied. We could always do more, but we took a big step losing 2-0 last game. Keeping a shut out is a pretty big one for me, the defense,

and the team. I'll take this, I'll take this for sure," said Bassett.

After 90 minutes, neither side had drawn blood.

This game received an extra 20 minutes to play, as the golden goal rule is in effect during these final minutes.

The first team to score a goal wins and if by the time the clock has run out and the score remains the same, both teams receive a point for a draw.

In total, Jess Dow Field witnessed 110 minutes of competitive Division II soccer and five players completed every second of it.

Besides the goalkeeper, four other players, Santiago Slapak, Arnold Signell, Jonathan Foster and Alex da Cunha did not step off the pitch once.

Surely, they will need a rest, head coach Tom Lang says.

"Those guys played quite a bit tonight. They'll have to find a way to recover and regenerate and those that didn't play we need to do a bit of extra work with them to keep them up to speed of playing games when they are called upon, so it'll be kind of a mixed bag when we get into training tomorrow," Lang said.

Lang was grateful to be back on Jess Dow Field and in front of fans.

"It's been an unbelievable experience these last couple of years that we've all had to struggle to get through," Lang said.

"The boys were really excited and looking forward to it, we're very anxious to play and get an opportunity here at home."

Men's soccer is already in preparation for their next game, which is this Saturday, Sept. 11 at 4 p.m. at home, as they take on Dominican

## Fantasy football recap week two

By Morgan Douglas  
Sports Editor  
Opinion Column

The chaos which was week two of the NFL season has come and gone, and there are some fantasy managers either feeling themselves at 2-0 or starting to sweat a little at 0-2.

It is not time to hit the panic button yet if your team is off to a slow start, but there are plenty of players to keep a close eye on going forward.

Saquon Barkley has never had a great offensive line to run behind for the New York Giants, but this did not matter back in 2018 when he looked like the same superfreak athlete he was in college. Two injury-plagued seasons and a sluggish start to this one must have those who spent a high draft pick on him concerned.

At least Barkley's 41-yard run against the Philadelphia Eagles showed he still has some big play ability, but maybe 2018 Barkley scores a touchdown on it. Barkley's teammate, receiver Kenny Golladay is off to a similar slow start when it comes to connecting with quarterback Daniel Jones.

It is hard not to believe in Golladay's

ability, but the situation he has landed in, signing with the Giants as a free-agent in the offseason, has not been ideal in the early going.

He still has time to bounce back, but if he is seen to be visibly upset with Jones on the field again in week three, it might be time for concern.

If fantasy managers want to look elsewhere this week, avoiding their Giants players might not be a bad idea.

Tony Pollard looked sharp on Sunday for the Dallas Cowboys. He had 140 scrimmage yards, including over 100 rushing yards.

Pollard is unlikely to usurp Ezekiel Elliott as the lead running back in Dallas, but he has carved out a significant role in the offense for himself, and certainly looks like the faster player to this point.

Outside of deeper leagues and superfans, there are not a lot of people starting the New York Jets in their fantasy lineups.

Nor should they after the ugly display by rookie quarterback Zach Wilson and his four interceptions on Sunday. Stay away until further notice.

This is just breaking, just getting word that Tom Brady is good at football. The legendary quarterback threw for an impressive five touchdowns against the Atlanta Falcons and their poor defense on

Sunday afternoon.

All of Brady's pass-catching weapons were able to feast outside of Antonio Brown, who got left out in the cold with only one reception, but Mike Evans was able to bounce back from his week one stinker by scoring two touchdowns.

Week one waiver wire darling, San Francisco 49ers running back Elijah Mitchell, did not reward those fantasy managers who spent a good portion of their free-agent acquisition budget or a high priority claim to roster him.

49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan likes to use multiple running backs, he does not care about fantasy football or the feelings of those who play. He is busy trying to win games. 'Shanahanigans' are a real thing.

Good luck predicting their backfield from week to week.

Thankfully, as of this writing before the Monday night game, there was no catastrophic injury to any key fantasy relevant players.

Guys got banged up, to be sure, quarterbacks in particular, but nothing to create a clear opportunity for a new name to reach weekly relevance for fantasy teams.

Wide receivers like Tim Patrick, Rondale

Moore, Zach Pascal and K.J. Osborn will find their names in waiver wire columns, YouTube videos and podcasts this week, and rightfully so. With running back being the scarcer position though, someone will chase the points scored by a certain Atlanta Falcons running back who scored two touchdowns on Sunday.

Cordarrelle Patterson is to fantasy football as the word fetch is to the movie Mean Girls. Stop trying to make it happen. Do not chase those two touchdowns.

It may still be too early for most fantasy managers to be serious about trading some of their high draft picks, but it is not too early to check in with the people who have Barkley, George Kittle, or Alvin Kamara on their team to see if there is a buy low opportunity there.

Conversely, the people who have Pollard or Cooper Kupp should at least be receptive to entertaining trade offers while those players are at the peak of their value.

Not saying sell high, or sell at all, but be open to conversations.

There is plenty of football left to be played.

This marks a new week of chaos. So, set those lineups and hope for the best.



# College Democrats start with a new E-board

By Luke Danko  
Contributor

The College Democrats held their first meeting of the semester on Sept. 16 at 8 p.m. in the Student Center. The hybrid event, which included 14 in-person and seven online participants, announced future plans for the club and opened a forum for club members to give recommendations.

The meeting began with participant and board member introductions. Club members were asked to introduce themselves and explain their interest in the club. Co-president Andreina Barajas Novoa, a sophomore who reported to the meeting virtually from Washington D.C., reflected on her interests in politics and said the club gives an opportunity “to meet with like-minded individuals.”

Following introductions, Co-President Kyle Thaxton, a sophomore, started a discussion on potential plans for the club and asked what the club would like to focus on this semester. Participant recommendations included: a mock presidential caucus, worker cooperatives and collaboration with state and local officials.

“I want to start having us do more activism on the local and state level,” said Thaxton. The club, which

focuses on campus, local and state politics has a history of canvassing and campaigning for Democrat officials in the past but was deterred last semester by the pandemic.

“A lot of clubs were struggling last year,” said Vice President Derrick Arnold, a sophomore. “Now that people are returning in person, thankfully we’ve seen an increase in our membership.”

This semester, the board consists of previously mentioned co-presidents, vice president, a treasurer and a secretary.

In her first term as co-president, Novoa expressed one of her goals for the club saying “For me personally, I really want the club members to get involved with a lot of grassroots organizing.” Novoa herself is a part of Connecticut Students for a Dream, an organization which works for the rights of undocumented people. Novoa said in regard to grassroots organizations, “that’s where I found my voice and where I found a lot of my passions.”

To interested students, Novoa said, “It doesn’t matter where you are in politics, how much knowledge you have of it—come to learn, come with an open mind—we’re all here learning.” Novoa is in sociology and political science major with a minor

in history.

Also debuting as co-president, Thaxton shared some of his personal aspirations for the club this semester. He said, “I’m hoping that we can do some canvassing, I’m hoping we can do some campaigning — workshops as well, for testimony writing.” Thaxton also expressed after the pandemic, he would like the club to participate in and organize rallies “here, or in the greater New Haven community.”

In regards to club participation, Thaxton said, “I think the reason people come to this club is because they want to educate themselves more, to not only learn but also get involved.” Thaxton is a history and political science major with a minor in french.

Taking on the vice president position, Arnold said, “We’re really trying to give back to the community of New Haven—we want to help people get more involved in activism and learn about activism.” He said the club hopes to create an “informed group of people that can go out and help their community.”

“Having a lot of members has been really nice, we almost weren’t expecting it—we weren’t expecting to need a larger meeting room—it was a surprise, but a good surprise,” he said. Arnold is a data science major and mathemat-



PHOTO | LUKE DANKO

College Democrats club during their hybrid meeting.

ics minor.

Returning to the club this semester, Treasurer Treqwon Mack, a senior, said the club is about “making awareness on important political issues and fighting for what’s right.” Mack has been involved in the club since the spring of 2017 and said he’s “excited to be back.”

“In spring last year, the College Dems were kind of breaking down,” said Mack, “I saw a position open on E-Board and I took some time to really think about it.”

He said, “I want to get involved and keep College

Dems alive. Cannot let it die.” Mack is a political science major and business administration minor.

Now in her second year of participating in the club, secretary Gwen Healy, a sophomore, said, “I feel like our club provides a lot of learning experiences for people to get more involved in politics.” Healy said because of recent political news, “Everyone’s coming in, everyone’s learning more about local politics and state politics.”

One of her goals for the club this semester is collaborating with the College Republicans. She

said, “I feel like that would be a challenge for us—I think if we could get that done it would be really good for the club.” Healy is an exploratory major and spanish minor.

To close the hybrid event, Thaxton left participants with a question due next meeting. He asked those in-person and virtual, “What are three political issues you care about?”

The College Democrats meet every Thursday at 8 p.m. For more information, visit the club’s Instagram account @scsudems, or contact one of the co-presidents via email.

## Costumes bring life to the stage

By Ethan Sebetta  
Contributor

Early next month, the university will be putting on its production of “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown.” In preparation for this, the costume team has been hard at work to bring the characters to life on stage.

“It is a pretty traditional design of the show with a little bit of a modern twist. We have an expanded cast, so we have a lot of these extra great characters from Peanuts,” said Heidi Hanson, costume designer for the upcoming production. This marks her fifth season with the university’s theatre department.

For the first time after a year of digital performances, this production will be put on before a live audience. Even before it hit the stage, the team behind the play noticed that loosened restrictions have made preparations for the show much more efficient. “It’s nice to be back with people

again in person, and I think that students are really excited to not be jumping over as many hurdles,” said Hanson.

“Theatre—is not typically made to be videotaped and then livestreamed,” said President of Crescent Players and theater major Kat Duffner, a senior. “All of the technical elements, the lights, the sounds, the costumes. Audiences will get to see the details as they’re meant to see them.”

Knowing an audience will be seeing the cast’s costumes in-person, has presented the cast with a challenge they did not have the year prior.

“Last year, if a belt that we found that fit an actor wasn’t the correct shade of brown that we wanted, we weren’t too worried about it, because the cameras weren’t going to pick that up anyway. But now we’re definitely making sure that everything’s the right color, it’s the right shape, the silhouette,” Duffner said.

Despite this, production has

been working hard to face these challenges head-on while overcoming the difficulties the pandemic has posed. “Everybody’s back, but I don’t think everybody is quite out and about,” explained Michael Skinner, head of the theatre department. “But we’re overcoming those challenges.”

“We’re super excited to be welcoming in some new people to be working on the wardrobe ready crew, which is the people who work with the actors backstage during the show, during tech,” Duffner said.

Even with the setbacks which have hindered student involvement this year, when asked how this year compares to the year prior, Skinner was quick to answer. “It’s a lot better than last year. Cause we did four shows last year too, but it was different parameters. Last year, campus was a ghost town — we ended up actually looking for people to audition for our shows last year cause we weren’t

getting a turnout.”

On a similar subject, Hanson offered an immediate response when asked if students should involve themselves with the costuming component of the production. “Absolutely. It expands your understanding of the clothing that you wear and our culture.”

“All students can be involved in any of our shows,” Skinner said. “This show is ‘Charlie Brown.’ We’re almost filled up with that one, but the next show I haven’t filled any of the tech positions yet, so if anyone wants to come contact me and we’ll get you involved.”

When asked about the most exciting part of this upcoming production, Duffner offered an answer unique to this day in age. “Knowing that it will be seen by a live audience—cause it’s just so much better with an audience. After the shows, you get to see people coming out of the theater and you get to hear their reactions. It’s a lot more engaging.”

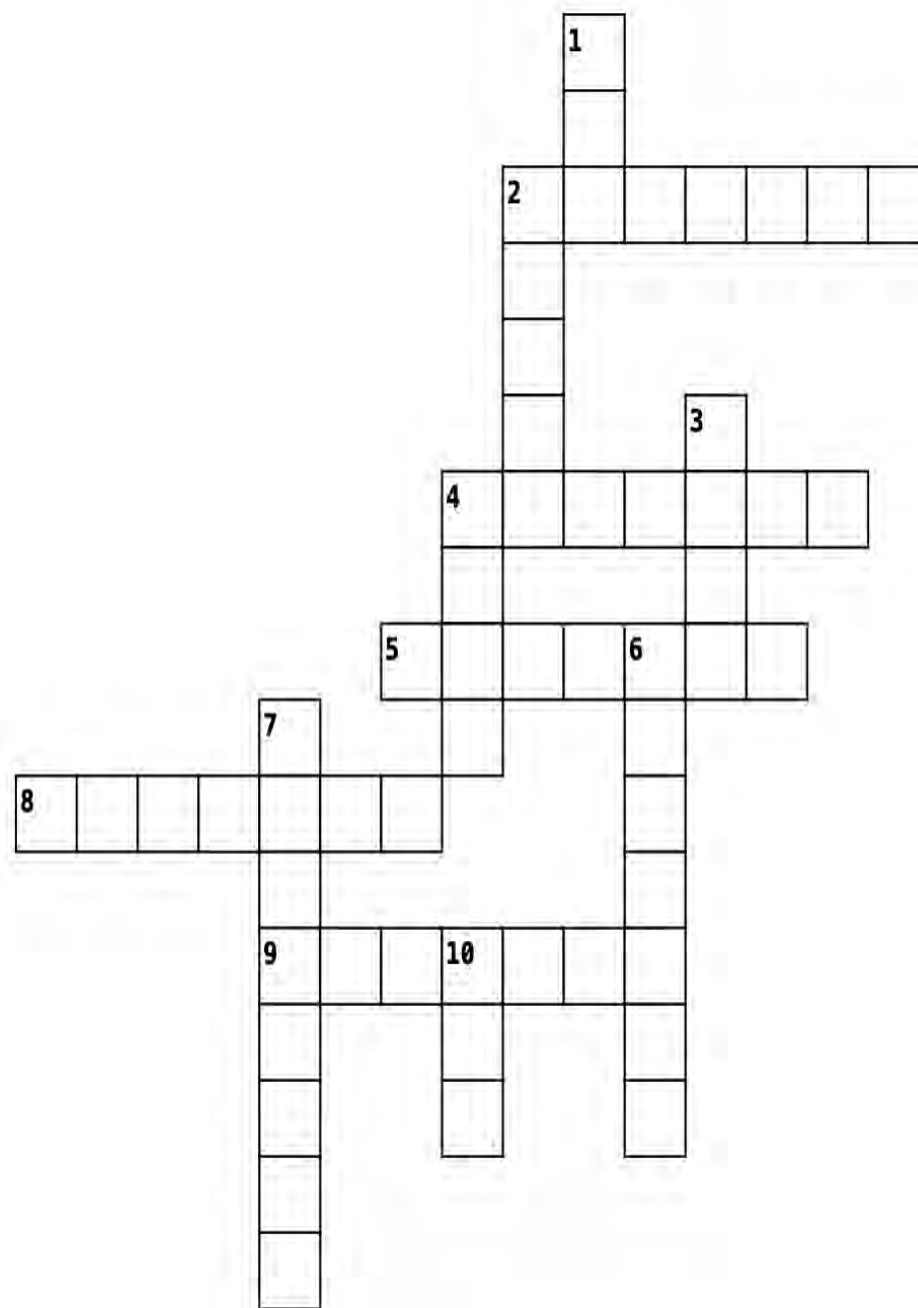


PHOTO | ETHAN SEBETTA

The costume shop; where students have been working.

## Weekly crossword: Autumn

By Ellis McGinley  
Managing Editor



Across

- 2. Maybe you’ll wear one for Halloween
- 4. Visit one to pick your own apples
- 5. What farmers are gathering now
- 8. Collective leaves; New England is known for its colorful autumn...
- 9. Will you carve one?

Down

- 1. Did we scare you?
- 2. Seasonal drink made from apples; good with cinnamon
- 3. You might see them flying at night
- 4. The multi-faceted October birthstone
- 6. When the sun crosses the equator
- 7. The blue birthstone of this month
- 10. Abbreviation for a popular fall coffee; get one at the Owl Perch



## Lil Nas X delivers his first album: *Montero*

By Sofia Rositani  
Editor-in-Chief

On Sept. 17, 2021, Lil Nas X, legal name Montero Hill, delivered his first album. The album is titled “Montero.” He posted a video of him birthing his first album during a livestream to countdown the hours until his album was delivered.

The album comes five months after his song titled “Montero” came out. The album features many different artists including Sir Elton John, Megan Thee Stallion, and Doja Cat.

A few days before the album was released, Hill won multiple awards at the VMAs. He won Video of the

Year, Best Direction, and Song of the Summer. He also performed “Industry Baby” with Jack Harlow and the album title track “Montero.”

“It’s all connecting to one little world,” he said in an interview with Rolling Stone. “It’s pretty cohesive. It’s very much straightforward, like OK, this Montero: This is how I feel about the future, about this past event, about this current thing going, this part of my love life, this part of family, this part of my career, you know? I really wanna let people to get to know Montero. It’s definitely deeper, but it still has its bops.”

This being his first album, he was sure to make it incredibly special. His PR team deserved a raise after it was released, because the lead up to it was amazing.

Hill had a fake pregnancy belly and decided to have a “baby shower” to celebrate the birth of this album. It definitely hyped me up for this album seeing the different videos he posted about it.

While the PR led up to a good album, I personally thought it could be better. I came in with high expectations, which left me with a sense of longing for more. While I expected better, I still think it was a good album with some very

catchy songs

The song I enjoyed the most was “LOST IN THE CITADEL” because the song, in my opinion, was catchy and had relatable lyrics.

“My God, you’re an angel I only see you in your halo I was hopin’ we could stay close, but we no longer sing the same notes,” sang Lil Nas X.

I think everyone can relate to a one-sided love and the feeling of rejection. People can relate to and enjoy the song because of its relatability.

One song I was really disappointed with was “ONE OF ME Feat. Elton John.” I was so excited for

this track, especially with the way both Hill and John advertised it. In the end it was a big disappointment. If a person puts “Feat.” in it then I expect to hear the person sing or rap or even just talk in the background. We got none of that, instead, all we heard was John playing the piano, which literally could be anyone. I went in with grand expectations and because of it I thought I was listening to the wrong song.

Another song I thoroughly enjoyed was “DOLLA SIGN SLIME Feat. Megan Thee Stallion.” I thought it was a great anthem and even though

he was bragging, I thought it was catchy enough and did not even care. Megan always does an excellent job when she is featured on a song “Butter” by BTS is a fitting example of her making a great song better.

Everyone has had a challenging time this past year—this album was a rollercoaster of emotions. While I do not think it was “album of the year,” I do think it was really relatable and had a few songs I have already added to my “Jam in the Car” playlist on Spotify.

According to an interview with Lil Nas X, he said “creating this album has been therapy for me.”

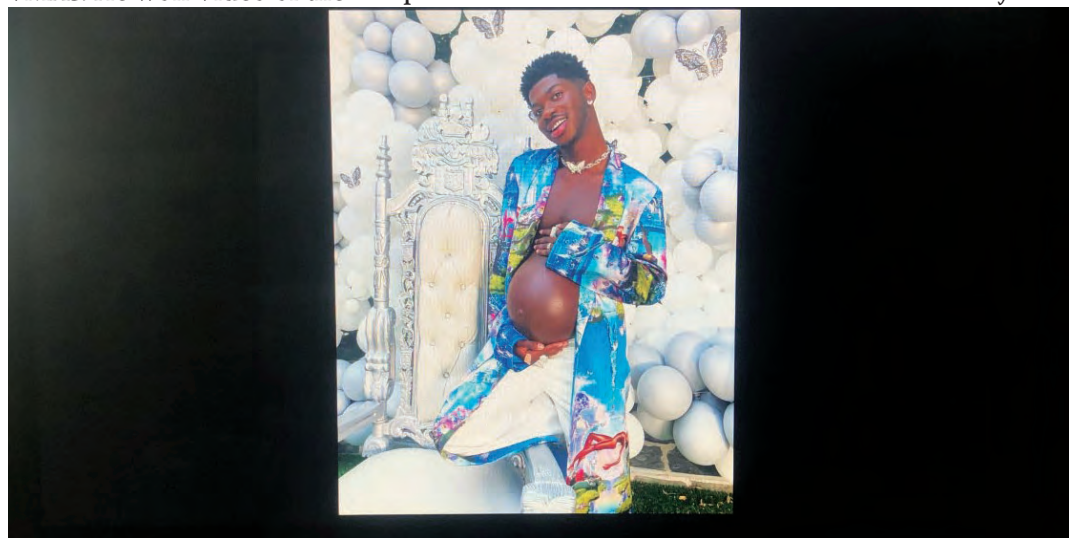


PHOTO | ROMA ROSITANI

Lil Nas X pregnant with his album, *Montero*, attending his “baby shower.”



## Time for peanut butter and jelly

By Sarah Shelton  
Features Editor

Program Council’s (ProCon) weekly PB&J event is back.

For years, ProCon has been holding an event in the Engleman Rotunda every Thursday where they have a table full of plates, different loaves of bread, peanut butter, jelly, Nutella and fluff for students to come and make a sandwich.

During COVID-19, however, they were not able to do this. ProCon still wanted to keep their student-loved event going—so they started handing out Uncrustables, a frozen sealed sandwich, in the Academic quad to follow guidelines.

“We still have to do Uncrustables because pre-COVID we would have the students make their own sandwiches, we would lay the bread first, then the peanut butters, jellies, and fluff and have them scoop it out themselves, but since COVID happened we can’t do that still,” said weekend programmer Matt Berry, a senior.

Berry is the longest-running programmer at ProCon. He said this event predates him and he knew it was something they had to continue to do.

“That’s been our staple event we’ve always had,” Berry said. “That’s been our traditional one that students always come to, so we knew we had to keep that. That’s the one most people know us for.”

It may be different now, but Berry still has hope once it is safe to do so, ProCon could go back to the old way.

“I think people preferred the old way,” Berry said. “Because some of them didn’t always do peanut butter and jelly, they would do strawberry jam, some did marshmallow fluff, so

there are combinations we can’t get with the Uncrustables.”

Nighttime Programmers, Kimberly Roig and Ramsley Exantus, who were helping with the event, said they only have the peanut butter and jelly Uncrustables available, but they will bring it up at the next ProCon meeting to consider including other flavor options.

“We have snacks,” Roig said. “Right now we have goldfish, Rice Krispies, combos, obviously the Uncrustables, pop tarts, cookies. I think last week it was also granola bars and chips.”

Due to scheduling conflicts, all programmers are currently coming together to keep their events running. This particular PB&J event, held on Sept. 16, was run by nighttime and weekend programmers.

“We have our own committees, but we do help each other out,” Roig said. “The daytime programmers set up and we stayed to hand everything out.”

Exantus said he enjoys doing events with ProCon and helping other committees, such as the

daytime programmers, when needed.

“I feel like the thing about ProCon is that we have a really good sense of commodity when it comes to helping each other out,” Exantus said. “Nighttime, daytime, weekend programming, we all come together and try to make the best for everybody on campus, even during COVID.”

Exantus and weekend programmer Naomi Lorde said the PB&J event is ProCon’s signature event, but not the biggest one.

“We have a lot of events honestly, not just this one,” Lorde said. “Honestly, I think our biggest event this month is definitely our pizza tour of New Haven, and in two weeks we are having a Six Flags trip for weekends, so that’s one of our biggest events, I would say.”

Roig said the majority of their events have been successful so far. They run out of everything before 1 p.m., but get a better turnout when the weather is nice.

“I think we were slowed a little because of the rain,” Roig said. “But I know last week was very successful.”



PHOTO | SARAH SHELTON

Kimberly Roig, Kevin Brown, Ramsley Exantus, and Naomi Lorde at the PB&J event ProCon table.

## This week’s horoscope



By Ellis McGinley  
Managing Editor

(A friendly foreboding: Mercury enters retrograde in Libra Sept. 26. Expect challenges in communication and heightened anxiety this time. Things may feel out of balance—hold on to what you trust until it passes.)

Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Is an unfulfilled fantasy making you restless? Maybe you should try to allow and embrace good things as they come. They may not last forever, but can’t you enjoy them while they do? A little optimism now could take you a long way later.

Scorpio (October 23 – November 22)

Try to temper your passion with patience rather than burning yourself out. You may be going through a test of willpower as you work towards and refine your goals: now is a good time to sow the seeds of your self-confidence for later harvest.

Sagittarius (November 23 – December 22)

Embrace guidance and see where you can continue to establish stability. Your fire is a strength, but it also

needs consistent care to fully grow. Your true potential will be unlocked when you let yourself trust others to help your ambition.

Capricorn (December 23 – January 22)

Communication mishaps and anxiety might start getting the best of you as Mercury enters retrograde. Don’t let it. Have faith in your friendships, and don’t be afraid to ask for what you need. You have a solid foundation: let yourself lean on it, Capricorn.

Aquarius (January 23 – February 22)

A decision will set you free this week. Draw on your intuition to see things clearly: you will come to know yourself better this week if you do not waste time stretching out a daydream. Cut through with clarity.

Pisces (February 23 – March 22)

Get comfy with your weird, Pisces. It is more than okay to be different—you’ve always known that better than anyone, so why not encourage it in those closest to you? It might be easier to be bubbly this week. Lean in!

Aries (March 23 – April 22)

Are you feeling inconsistent? Choose your words carefully this week. Don’t be afraid to take a step back and breathe. Now might be a good time to learn how to stoke your own fire: outside communication might be tricky, and you can’t always look to (at?) others to give you the push you need.

Taurus (April 23 – May 22)

Are you feeling uplifted or downtrodden? Can

you push through on your own, or is it time to reach out? Bridging the gap might be difficult, but once you ask for help or open up to those nearest to you, you may find your burdens lighter. Don’t be afraid to lean on someone else. You won’t take them down with you.

Gemini (May 23 – June 22)

Feet on the ground, Gemini, and hold that chin high. You may have found yourself caught up in a lot of whimsy lately, whether the good, fantastical kind or the anxious, consuming kind. Take a breath and just slow down. You can find the time somewhere.

Cancer (June 23 – July 22)

Go with the flow this week. The moon is in a time of change, and so you may be too. Take each transition as it comes, and bide your time rather than be too quick to action. The challenges you face may change faster than you can even think.

Leo (July 23 – August 24)

Your ambition might feel stunted, but you could also see new opportunities in your social life because of it. Take a leap of faith. Try to trust someone you may be unsure of—just with something small. It may be time to rebuild a more honest ego.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

Hone in on the little details this week, Virgo, but try to hone your criticisms, too. You want to both encourage growth and avoid conflict. Communication with those closest to you may come less naturally than usual. Remember: intensity is a tool; one best wielded carefully.